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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

2005 NOV 22 P 4: 28

Bachmann for Congress,
Joe Droogsma, as treasurer

MUR 5682

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OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

2005 NOV 22 P 4: 48

RESPONSE OF BACHMANN FOR CONGRESS TO THE COMPLAINT

By and through the undersigned counsel, Bachmann for Congress, Joe Droogsma as treasurer (hereinafter "Respondent"), hereby responds to the complaint in the above-captioned Matter Under Review. Because the complaint lacks merit, Respondent hereby respectfully requests that the complaint be dismissed.

I. INTRODUCTION

Michelle Bachmann is a two-term state senator in Minnesota, and is currently a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives. Specifically, Bachmann is running for the seat being vacated by Congressman Mark Kennedy, who is currently running for the U.S. Senate. She is in a highly competitive three-way Republican endorsement contest, in a district which leans Republican but remains politically competitive. *See Almanac of American Politics 2004* (in the 2000 election, President George W. Bush received 52% of the vote).

The complainant, Karl Bremer, is a local media gadfly and a paid Democratic-Farmer-Labor operative.¹ More specifically, he has been labeled an "anti-Bachmann agitator" and a "Bachmann opponent." In fact, over the past several years, he has written numerous letters to the editor and the like attacking Bachmann (attached hereto as

¹ Attached hereto is Exhibit 3, which characterizes complainant as "a writer for the House DFL media office."

Exhibit 1). He is a participant in a web blog entitled "Dump Michelle Bachmann" (attached hereto as Exhibit 2). This blog has publicly encouraged readers to file complaints against Bachmann, and sets forth an outline of what ultimately became the complaint in this matter.² And of course, after the complaint was filed, it was quickly added to the Dump Michelle Bachmann website. *Id.* Thus, this current complaint should be seen for what it is: a vindictive political vendetta filed by a paid Democrat operative against Bachmann, designed to get headlines at her expense.

II. ANALYSIS

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The central allegation of the complaint is beyond the jurisdiction of the Commission -- that Edwatch, a section 501(c)(3) entity, was "engaging in partisan political fundraising and endorsements." Whether or not a section 501(c)(3) entity is permitted to engage in such activity is for the Internal Revenue Service to decide, not the Federal Election Commission. Accordingly, such a claim ought to be dismissed as it is beyond the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Not until his last sentence does the complainant arguably raise a matter that is within the province of the Commission -- that the Respondent may have improperly received a mailing list from Edwatch. This accusation can be dealt with in short order. The Respondent paid to Edwatch the fair market rental value of the list used for a one-time mailing. Given that it was a one-time mailing to a list of only a handful of names, very few of which actually reside in Minnesota's sixth congressional district,³ the fair

² The blog itself appears problematic. In addition to expressly advocating the defeat of Michelle Bachmann, a DFL operative appears to be involved to a significant degree, and appears to exercise at least some control over the blog. This takes the blog out of the protection afforded by FEC Advisory Opinion 2005-16.

³ The list itself was comprised of about 600 names, and of that number, less than 40 were people actually residing in the Sixth Congressional District.

market value is quite low.⁴ Attached is Exhibit 4, consisting of three documents that establish Respondent's payment for the list: (1) its own internal record, showing a \$50 payment to Edwatch for a campaign list; (2) a true and correct photocopy of a check made payable to Edwatch in the amount of \$50; and (3) Respondent's bank statement, showing payment on the check. Thus, the complainant's accusation regarding Respondent's use of a list is without merit, and the complaint ought to be dismissed.

Although the complaint fails to contain any other specific allegations, Respondent nonetheless wishes to further address any lingering concerns regarding the involvement of a 501(c)(3) entity in a federal election. Critically, the complaint does not allege that an in-kind contribution occurred. The reason for this is obvious: Respondent received nothing of value from the 501(c)(3). Ultimately, the letter in question was not provided by a 501(c)(3), but instead was signed by an individual supportive of Bachmann. Even the publicly-hostile complainant concedes this point – the letter was in fact paid for by the Bachmann campaign, and authored by an individual.⁵ Of course, the complainant has no choice – the source of the letter, and who paid for it, is made clear by its disclaimer.

If anything, the letter demonstrates Respondent's intent and desire to comply with the law.⁶ Although there was some preliminary discussion between the campaign and the 501(c)(3), the campaign declined any campaign assistance from the non-profit or its political action committee (save for the already-discussed mailing list of negligible value). Ultimately, the letter in question was signed by an individual supportive of

⁴ The undersigned has consulted with a reputable list broker regarding valuation of such a list, and confirmed that the campaign did in fact pay to Edwatch the proper fair market value.

⁵ The campaign paid for the entire mailing – envelopes, postage, and all other costs associated with it.

⁶ The campaign believed that the letter was perfectly permissible, as it had seen another letter sent by another Federal candidate that listed a non-profit for identification purposes (attached hereto as Exhibit 5).

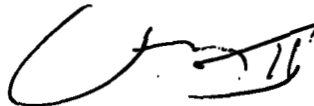
Bachmann. Any reference to the non-profit entity was included by the author of the letter simply for identification purposes only. Thus, such a mention does not constitute anything of value to Respondent.

The best the hostile Democrat complainant can muster is to assert that the letter "implies" some sort of endorsement. But such implicit inference is a far cry from alleging that an impermissible endorsement occurred. Such a so-called "implicit" endorsement does not constitute an in-kind contribution.

III. CONCLUSION

The complaint is nothing more than a partisan attempt to publicly discredit Michelle Bachmann, and lacks merit. Accordingly, Respondent respectfully requests that the complaint be dismissed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Counsel for Respondent



« [The Theft of 9/11](#) | [Main](#) | [The Beatings Will Continue Until Morale Improves](#) »

June 07, 2005

Dump

Perhaps you've heard - Michele Bachman is running for Congress.

Bachmann, depending on your point of view, is either a tireless crusader for traditional conservative values, or the Spanish Inquisition. Her critics range from the fairly articulate (even among Republicans) to the beneath-contempt.

One of them, as noted in a post the other day, is the group that produces the "Dumpbachmann" blog.

The blog exists primarily to toss out dirt at Bachmann - although oddly, for a blog entitled "Dump Bachmann", the subject for the past two days seems to have been yours truly, mostly snarky name-calling and febrile "gotchas", but whatever. The dirt is literal, in one case; they went out to a stretch of highway that Bachmann had adopted and picked up, according to a photo, four or five bags of trash. (Speaking of which - make sure you check out [Swiftee's caption contest](#) for the photo.

In my post the other day, I noted that writer Eva Young was not quite telling the whole story; she listed Karl Bremer as a "constituent" without adding that he was also a longtime DFL activist and anti-Bachmann agitator.

Today (when she wasn't calling me fourth-grade names), she called Thomas Montgomery a "constituent" of Bachmann's. Now, I know Tom Montgomery; he's my lawyer. He's a fine general practice lawyer; if you need a criminal defense, a will, a divorce or any other legal service at a reasonable price, done the right way, I *highly* recommend Montgomery. He's also a committed DFL activist, but a great guy and, I stress again, a crackerjack lawyer at a decent price. One thing he is *not*, however, is a Bachmann constituent. He lives in the Fourth CD, the last I checked. Of course, if you were a neutral voter going to the site due to the press coverage they've gotten lately, you'd never know any of that from the Dump site.

So a lot of little facts get dropped. On the one hand, it makes you

wonder how punctilious they are about other stories, like the infamous restroom incident or the bushes incident; any *other* facts the site's producers didn't feel we needed to know?

On the other hand, it's not even the big issue.

So I have a question, and a quick survey. Read the "Dump" site. Pretend you're a voter in District Six, with a choice between Bachmann, Cherie Pierson Yecke, Phil Krinkie and so on.

Do the activities of blogs like "DumpBachmann" affect your choice, and how?

Do the activities of groups like dumbachmann.blogspot.com make you more or less likely to vote for Michele Bachmann?

- ☐ Yes. They got me convinced! Bachmann must go!
- ☐ They make the occasional good point!
- ☐ No difference.
- ☐ I think DumpBachmann is sloppy, self-serving and unconvincing.
- ☐ With moonbats like that as enemies, I'm tempted to move to the Sixth to vote for Bachmann.



[Free polls from Pollhost.com](http://www.pollhost.com)

Posted by Mitch at June 7, 2005 04:04 PM | [TrackBack](#)

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St. Paul Pioneer Press (MN)

May 24, 2005

Section: Local

Edition: St. Paul

Page: B1

POLITICAL OPPONENTS TALK TRASH

BACHMANN TAKES HIGH ROAD AFTER FOES CLEAN HIGHWAY

MARY DIVINE, Pioneer Press

Michele Bachmann's opponents worked the streets of Stillwater this weekend to score points against the Republican state senator -- but was it "dirty" or "clean" politics?

A group behind www.dumpBachmann.com organized a trash pickup of the two-mile stretch of Stonebridge Trail she sponsors under Washington County's Adopt-A-Highway program. The group's founder, Eva Young of Minneapolis, said she had heard the highway "was looking kind of trashy." The group collected about seven bags of trash, a plastic newspaper delivery box and a metal post.

Young, you might say, "trashed" Bachmann, who is running for Congress, by saying she "can find the time to jet out to Washington, D.C., for fundraisers with Phyllis Schlafly, but she can't find the time to fulfill her trash-collection obligations on her adopted road right here in her own district."

Bachmann, who was recently honored by the Washington County Board for her 10 years of picking up highway trash, said she appreciated the weekend help.

"It was on my schedule to clean the highway but not, obviously, until we had concluded the session and business at the Capitol was concluded," she said. "I'm delighted that the group took care of the spring cleaning for me, and I thank them for their work to help keep Washington County roads cleaned."

County officials learned of the politically motivated pickup Monday morning when Carol Hanson, who runs the county's Adopt-A-Highway program, listened to her voice-mail messages. An anonymous tipster told her where county Transportation Department employees could pick up the bags of trash, she said.

Hanson said that in the program's 14-year history it was the first time she could remember someone other than the assigned person or group collecting trash along a county highway without the sponsor's knowledge.

Wayne Sandberg, assistant county engineer, said Bachmann, who has collected trash in the area since 1995, has always been diligent in picking up her stretch of highway twice a year. She has not yet been out this spring, but neither have many others, he said.

This isn't the first time Bachmann's Adopt-A-Highway sign has been involved in a clean-up controversy.

In 2001, the senator asked the county Transportation Department to change her sign to reflect her new political title, a move that ran counter to state Transportation Department guidelines.

After the new sign was installed, local DFL activist **Karl Bremer** called the county Transportation Department to complain. The sign was changed a week later.

Bremer was among the 10 Bachmann opponents who picked up trash Friday night. "I'd call it 'guerrilla politics,' and it's a helluva lot more fun than party politics," he said.

Sandberg said Monday he would prefer to keep politics out of the trash-pickup program. "We look at the Adopt-A-Highway program as a cost-savings tool and a way for the community to give back," Sandberg said.

Bachmann, who has become a center of attention most recently for her vocal opposition to same-sex marriage, said she hopes her opponents pick up more trash in the future. "If it gets more people involved in adopting highways and volunteering to clean up our roads, then it is well worth the flap," she said.

Mary Divine covers Washington County. She can be reached at mdivine@pioneerpress.com or 651-228-5443.

Photo

Michele Bachmann

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PIONEER PRESS FEB 27 '08
There she goes again.

Sen. Michele Bachmann's grandstanding with her Ronald Reagan birthday resolution is nothing new for the self-serving senator from Stillwater ("Reagan resolution lacked former president's goodwill," Feb. 15). In her first two years in office, she authored 21 resolutions —



Sen. **Bachmann**

10 percent of all the resolutions proposed by the entire 67-member Senate during that period. When you add up the cost of drafting, printing, voting on and recording these resolutions, the cost to taxpayers for promoting Michele Bachmann starts to look like real money.

And now that she's running for Congress, we can only expect more of her legislative buffoonery in the coming weeks.

Perhaps Bachmann should retire now and save the citizens of Senate District 52 from further embarrassment so she can get on with her congressional campaign legitimately, rather than have the taxpayers continue to subsidize it.

KARL BREMER
Stillwater

Focused on wrong issue

On April 27, Sen. Michele Bachmann issued a press release praising the inclusion of \$4.5 million in the state's bonding bill for classroom and technological improvements at Century College in her district.

"I plan to lobby diligently for the inclusion of this important project in the Senate bonding bill," Bachmann pledged.

On May 6, Bachmann voted against the bonding bill that included the money for Century College. And ever since, Bachmann has threatened to work to defeat any bonding bill if she does not get a vote on her already-dead proposal to write discrimination into the state Constitution with an amendment to ban gay marriage.

So much for our senator's "diligent lobbying."

Bachmann does not represent the values of Stillwater and the St. Croix Valley but, instead, a shrill minority of religious extremists on a crusade to codify their fundamentalist beliefs into law. It's time that the silent majority reject this charlatan's homophobic agenda at the ballot box, wherever she runs for office.

Karl Bremer, Stillwater.

2004 JUN 02 13

This article was originally published in the Stillwater Gazette on Aug. 19, 2005. This version will differ from the exact version that went to press in relation to grammatical errors and misspellings.

Selective editing is nothing new for Mark Kennedy
Karl Bremer

Kennedy is a poor excuse for a U.S. Representative, and would make an even poorer excuse for a U.S. Senator, which is what he's aspiring to become.

But selective editing to burnish his image is nothing new for Kennedy. He does the same thing with his voting record when communicating with constituents.

Congressman Mark Kennedy was caught this week selectively editing newspaper articles about himself to improve his image and then placing the edited articles on his campaign Web site. But selective editing to burnish his image is nothing new for Kennedy. He does the same thing with his voting record when communicating with constituents.

In June, I wrote to Kennedy and urged him to support H.R. 1157, the "Freedom to Read Protection Act." The measure would amend the Patriot Act to protect the privacy of bookstore and library patrons from the prying eyes of

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the government, and curtail the FBI's ability to seize library and bookstore records for terrorism investigations.

Kennedy responded recently, and upon my first reading of his letter, left the clear impression that he was on my side.

"Like you, I believe that protecting the privacy of American citizens is one of the highest priorities for Congress," Kennedy began. "America was founded upon the principle that every individual has a right to live their life and conduct their own affairs in a peaceful and lawful manner without the specter of Big Brother government supervision. This is especially true in an age where advances in technology have made it possible to track and record information like never before.

"This same technology has also made it easier for criminals and those who wish to do us harm to carry out their misdeeds, something which should concern every American. However, I have long believed that Benjamin Franklin had it right when he said 'they that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.' That's why I am committed to guaranteeing that in the government's efforts to fight the war on terrorism and secure our homeland, essential civil liberties are not sacrificed."

Wow, I thought, that sounds pretty good to me.

Kennedy went on to describe Rep. Bernie Sanders' "Freedom to Read Protection Act" and its legislative history, even noting that Sanders' amendment to prevent the federal government from spending any money to enforce that section of the Patriot Act had passed this year.

"Be assured," he concluded, "that should H.R. 1157 come to the House Floor for a vote, I will keep your views in mind."

But after re-reading Rep. Kennedy's letter, I noticed something peculiar: He never told me whether he actually supported the "Freedom to Read Protection Act," or how he had voted on the Sanders amendment.

After researching the legislative history of the measure myself, I found that my congressman wasn't entirely forthcoming about his position on it. In fact, he neglected to tell me he had already voted against the measure twice.

Sanders first offered his amendment to the 2005 appropriations bill for the Departments of Commerce, State, Justice and the Judiciary. That bill died July 8, 2004, on a controversial 210-210 tie vote in which House Republicans extended the voting time by 23 minutes in order to change some GOP lawmakers' minds. They were successful. That was Kennedy's first vote against it.

Sanders reintroduced his bill this year and offered it as a similar amendment to the 2006 appropriations bill for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies. This time he was successful, and it passed June 15 on a 238-187. Again, Kennedy voted against it.

Now, I didn't just roll off the turnip truck; I'm not so naive to believe that Kennedy would necessarily highlight our points of disagreement. But I would expect him to at least admit that he already had voted against the measure and attempt to defend his vote.

Such a glaring omission is disingenuous at best, and borders on dishonesty. But like his misleading Web site, Kennedy chose to mislead his constituents on his votes to let the government peek into your library and bookstore records.

Unfortunately, it's what we in the 6th District have come to expect from our congressman. Kennedy is a poor excuse for a U.S. Representative, and would make an even poorer excuse for a U.S. Senator, which is what he's aspiring to become. It would behoove Minnesotans statewide who don't know the deceptive ways of Kennedy to scratch below the surface before they give him the benefit of the doubt — or their vote.

....

Karl Bremer is a Stillwater resident.

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This article was originally published in the Stillwater Gazette on Dec. 19, 2003. This version will differ from the exact version that went to press in relation to grammatical errors and misspellings.

Sen. Bachmann's actions 'belie her slick brochure's message'

Halloween is long past, but Sen. Michele Bachmann continues to masquerade as a freedom-loving, tax-cutting patriot. Unfortunately, her true colors are starting to show through her red-white-and-blue costume.

Bachmann's legislative report would have us believe that she's been busy balancing the budget, protecting grandma in the nursing home and single-handedly reforming education. But her actions of late belie her slick brochure's message.

In the past several weeks and months, Bachmann's headline-grabbing stunts have included calling for: installing the Ten Commandments in public buildings and classrooms; allowing discussion of creationism in science classes; and a constitutional ban on same-sex marriages.

The Massachusetts Supreme Court's decision that gives gay couples the right to marry under that state's constitution, Bachmann shrilly termed "judicial tyranny." And allowing same-sex marriages in Minnesota, she said, would be a "decision that could forever change our people."

It would be nice to have a state senator who was actually concerned about representing her district, rather than one who is bent on advancing her own name recognition and narrow, ideologically driven agenda in a quest for higher office. Maybe even a senator who brings people together rather than one who drives wedges between them with intolerance and divisive fringe issues.

Bachmann's radical vision for a fundamentalist, theocratic state would be better suited to Alabama — or Iran. But it has no place in Minnesota, particularly representing the citizens of Senate District 52.

We can do better than this in 2006.

Karl Bremer,
Stillwater

Stillwater, MN 55082

2004150819



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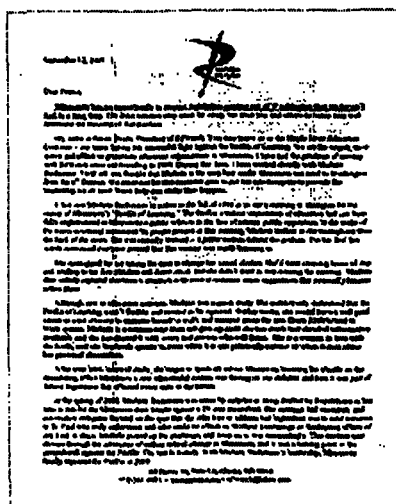
DUMP MICHELE BACHMANN



MICHELE BACHMANN IS MINNESOTA'S ANSWER TO COLORADO'S MARILYN MUSGRAVE. SHE IS OBSESSED WITH GAYS AT THE EXPENSE OF REPRESENTING HER DISTRICT. THIS BLOG IS HERE TO CHRONICLE WHY SEN MICHELE BACHMANN NEEDS TO BE RETIRED FROM THE LEGISLATURE AND STOPPED FROM ANY FUTURE POLITICAL CAREER. SEND TIPS TO DUMPBACHMANN@GMAIL.COM "YOU KNOW YOU'VE MADE IT WHEN YOU'RE FEATURED ON DB." DRAFT PAWLENTY BLOG

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Screen Shots of Edwatch's Fundraising Letter for Michele Bachmann



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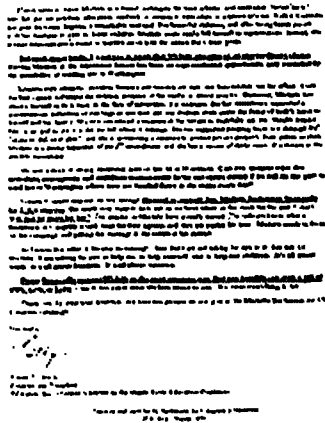
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ATTENTION REPORTERS

Bachmann's Report to the Washington County Sheriff on "Bathroomgate" is available here. Discrepancies in Bachmann's stories about this are described here. More Bathroomgate Bachmannalia Links are here. Photos of Picking Up Bachmann's Trashy stretch of Highway are available here. Feel free to use them. Dump Bachmann coverage with links to all DB posts on



Now I thought Michele was a tax attorney. Shouldn't she know better than this?

POSTED BY LLOYDLETTA AT 6:14 PM COMMENT (1) | TRACKBACK (0)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2005

Michele Bachmann at another Edwatch Event

North Star Liberty has the story here.

Rep. Mark Olson (R-Big Lake) for opposing the Profile of Learning and championing the American Heritage Education Act over several legislative sessions; and Sen. Michele Bachmann (R-Stillwater), to a standing ovation from the audience, for her many years as a passionate, articulate voice (as a constituent and a legislator) for the EdWatch agenda.

Michele Bachmann gave the keynote speech at Edwatch's fall conference: The Effect of Same Sex Marriage on Education. Excerpts from the Speech are available at Dump Bachmann.

POSTED BY LLOYDLETTA AT 7:52 PM COMMENTS (3) | TRACKBACK (0)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

the issue is available here.

BACHMANNALIA

Photos of Dump Bachmann Cleaning Up Bachmann's Trashy Adopted Highway

Legislative Bachmannalia: Bills with Chief Author Michele Bachmann

Discussing Bachmann Amendment on Olive Tree Ministries

Bachmann on Olive Tree Ministries

Bachmann's Home Page

Favorite Bachmann Quotes

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Student for Bachmann Blog

Bachmann's Home Page Internet Archive

Bathroomgate Bachmannalia: What REALLY Happened in the Scandia Bathroom? (St Croix Valley Press)

Michele Bachmann Trashy Travelog

Michele Bachmann and Eva Young Debate Bachmann Amendment on KKMS (Joyce Harley Show - KKMS)

Tom Barnard rants about Bachmann (2nd Hour)

Michele Bachmann Fun Page (by Ken Avidor)

Legislators Laugh at Bachmann (by Ken Avidor)

The Ballad of Brave Lady Michele (Pharyngula)

Michele Bachmann Morality Minutes from the Wendy Wilde's Home Page

Bachmann Endorsements (Wayback Machine: Dec. 24, 2003)

Usenet News on Bachmann (google

From the "Dump Michele Bachmann" Blog

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 01, 2005

More on the Bachmann-Edwatch Violation of Tax and FEC Laws

Andy from Eleventh Avenue South explains IRS Laws for a 501 c3. It seems very clear that Edwatch is running a foul of the law.

Excuses

Will there be excuses for breaking the law? Tax laws are long, ambiguous, legalistic, and often difficult to understand. Fortunately for Minnesota nonprofits, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits provides ample opportunities to learn what a nonprofit, and its employees can and can't do. Also, the president of a nonprofit should be well aware of the IRS and FEC laws governing a 501(c)3 organization. Additionally, a candidate for the US House of Representatives who lists her occupation as a TAX ATTORNEY should be well aware of these laws.

Other Possible Violations

Browsing the EdWatch website for Bachmann references turns up over 60 pages. And there certainly seems to be a bit of a love-fest for Bachmann occurring there. Here are a few examples that are very close to being in violation, if they aren't in fact violations.

"On Monday, Sen. Michele Bachmann officially announced her campaign for the 2006 race for Minnesota's 6th District Congress, a seat that will be vacated by Cong. Mark Kennedy. Kennedy has announced his 2006 run for Mark Dayton's U.S. Senate seat. The Bachmann race brings No Child Left Behind into the election arena. Bachmann authored legislation to remove Minnesota from the massive federal education law. Bachmann also authored the 2004 legislation for a Minnesota constitutional amendment to define marriage between one man and one woman. Bachmann was a tireless opponent of the Profile of Learning since 1998, when most legislators were lining up to support it. Known for her articulate and populist opposition to the federal education system, Bachmann launched her remarkable political career by speaking out against the Profile of Learning and School-to-Work. Finally, as a Minnesota Senator, she saw the Profile repealed in 2003." [Link]

"EdWatch is coming forward for a Senator who has been there to support parents and taxpayers on education long before it was popular to oppose the Profile. She continues to provide clear, strong leadership in education at the Capitol." [Link]

This page links to Michele Bachmann's campaign website.

And, ironically, the EdWatch Political Action Campaign, EdAction, has this press release titled, "Bachmann calls for end to Illegal Campaigning." Seriously, I do not make this stuff up. (And I'll be looking into EdAction next to see if there are any violations there over the next few days.)

Read the whole thing. This is excellent work by Andy at Eleventh Avenue South.

POSTED BY LLOYDLETTA AT 9:07 PM COMMENT (0)COMMENTS | TRACKBACK

(0)TRACKBACK

Dump Bachmann Action Alert: Complain to the FEC About Bachmann's Recent Edwatch Fundraising Letter

A couple weeks ago, Michele Bachmann sent out a fundraising appeal that included a letter from the "non-profit" Edwatch. An organization that is classified as a non-profit is strictly prohibited from campaigning for a specific candidate.

More background on the letter here.

A copy of the Renee Doyle Edwatch letter is available here. (Click on the images to see larger versions of the letter.) Edwatch is a 501 c3 nonprofit organization. The letter from Renee Doyle gives Edwatch's address at the bottom of the letter and is signed: Renee T Doyle, Founder and President, Edwatch Inc. At the bottom of the letter it says Prepared and Paid for by Bachmann for Congress. Edwatch's donation page on their website says that donations to Edwatch are tax deductible.

Would you like to share in the work of EdWatch through a financial donation? All gifts are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated.

Please make your tax-deductible contribution today!

Dump Bachmann encourages Readers who received the Edwatch mailing requesting contributions to Bachmann's campaign to file an FEC complaint against Bachmann and a complaint with the IRS about Edwatch.

To complain to the FEC go here for instructions. You should send copies of the fundraising appeal (envelopes, letters, return envelope.

That has all the instructions and where to send it. The complaint MUST be notarized.

For IRS complaints, go here:

Copy Dump Bachmann on your correspondence, or at least let us know you are filing a complaint.

Points to make in your letter to both the FEC and the IRS.

- The letter from Renee Doyle repeatedly mentions Edwatch, and contains Edwatch's address at the footer of the letter. This suggests this is being sent on behalf of Edwatch.
- The letter is signed: Renee Doyle, Founder and President, Edwatch - which again suggests that this letter is sent on behalf of the non-profit Edwatch.
- The letter also contains the disclaimer that it is prepared and paid for by Bachmann for Congress.
- It is against Federal Election laws for a non-profit to engage in partisan political activity.
- It appears that Edwatch's mailing list was used to send this fundraising letter. That is a further violation of election and tax law.

2604152824



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DUMP MICHELE BACHMANN



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SUNDAY, JUNE 05, 2005

Bachmann Testimonials

Here's some of my favorite Bachmann testimonials. Please add yours in the comments:

"We'll wrap up the sex survey here, and just when we're in the sexin' up mood; then we'll turn to Michele at 8 o'clock for a happy ending."
Tom Barnard, KQRS Morning Show, May 12, 2005.

"Hot Sexy Minx" - Tom Barnard, May 11, 2005

"Senator Eye Candy" - JB from Fraters Libertas.

Jim Bernstein, Commerce Commissioner under Jesse Ventura:

She will manipulate, fabricate, restate, obfuscate, misrepresent, misquote, mistreat and use whatever tactic she thinks she might be able to get away with to make her point. Sen. Bachmann knows no ethical boundaries and has no discernible conscience except that whatever moves her agenda forward is acceptable because her agenda is "right" and everyone else is wrong.

Sen. Bachmann believes in "scientific creationism" (an oxymoron if ever there was one) as passionately as she believes in anything. She has also spoken quite often about the need to insure that children are given "all sides" of the origin question

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BJHOKANSON

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ATTENTION REPORTERS

Bachmann's Report to the Washington County Sheriff on "Bathroomgate" is available here. Discrepancies in Bachmann's stories about this are described here. More Bathroomgate Bachmannalia Links are here. Photos of Picking Up Bachmann's Trashy stretch of Highway are available here. Feel free to use them. Dump Bachmann coverage with links to all DB posts on

but that "scientific creationism" is the only true one because it comes from God!

- Former Commerce Commissioner Jim Bernstein, February 2004.

PZ Myers from Pharyngula:

That Bachmann. She is simply an awful legislator, a far right wing ideologue who was behind the pressure to include Intelligent Design creationism in our public school curricula, and completely derailed the last legislative session with her crusade against gay marriage. She's a disaster. - PZ Myers, Pharyngula, 3/02/05

Constituent Corbett Johnson, Forest Lake:

I am sixty years old, happily married and have one son who is thirteen. I am terrified by the direction people like Senator Michelle Bachman are trying to take this state and this country. What would Abraham Lincoln think of our party today? I am embarassed by the positions taken by Senator Bachman and equally appalled by the rhetoric on both sides of the aisle. If we all could tone things down and calmly look at the issues I believe Senator Bachman's views would finally be seen for what they are and in the light of day she would have to go away. Pandering to the fears of uniformed people is not Christian. Jesus never said, "Come unto me, some of you." We need to get serious about real issues.

Constituent Karl Bremer, Stillwater:

March 3, 2003

To the Editor:

When I think of State Sen. Michele Bachmann, hard-working aren't the first words that come to mind. Self-serving maybe, but not hard-working.

the issue is available here.

BACHMANNALIA

Photos of Dump Bachmann Cleaning Up Bachmann's Trashy Adopted Highway

Legislative Bachmannalia: Bills with Chief Author Michele Bachmann Discussing Bachmann Amendment on Olive Tree Ministries

Bachmann on Olive Tree Ministries Bachmann's Home Page

Favorite Bachmann Quotes

Favorite Bachmann Testimonials *new*

Student for Bachmann Blog

Bachmann's Home Page Internet Archive

Bathroomgate Bachmannalia: What REALLY Happened in the Scandia Bathroom? (St Croix Valley Press)

Michele Bachmann Trashy Travelog

Michele Bachmann and Eva Young Debate Bachmann Amendment on KKMS (Joyce Harley Show - KKMS)

Tom Barnard rants about Bachmann (2nd Hour)

Michele Bachmann Fun Page (by Ken Avidor)

Legislators Laugh at Bachmann (by Ken Avidor)

The Ballad of Brave Lady Michele (Pharyngula)

Michele Bachmann Morality Minutes from the Wendy Wilde's Home Page

Bachmann Endorsements (Wayback Machine: Dec. 24, 2003)

Usenet News on Bachmann (google

Bachmann has the lightest workload of any state senator. Although she serves on only three committees, two of them meet at exactly the same time. That means Bachmann only attends a maximum of four committee meetings a week. The rest of her colleagues' calendars, with the exception of two in leadership positions, are filled with anywhere from six to 11 committee meetings a week.

According to the Secretary of the Senate's office, senators are "strongly discouraged" from requesting assignments to committees with conflicting schedules. An aide in Bachmann's office says she often attends committee meetings in lieu of the senator. Is this the kind of representation Washington County voters elected in November?

When Bachmann's not skipping committee meetings, she's promoting herself with meaningless resolutions-six of them already this session, dealing with such matters as a missile defense system and the federal estate tax. Bachmann is well-versed in the art of authoring these self-serving public relations gimmicks. In her first two years in office, she authored 21 of them-10 percent of all the resolutions proposed by the entire 67-member Senate during that period. When you add up the cost of drafting, printing, voting on and recording these resolutions, the cost to taxpayers for promoting Michele Bachmann starts to look like real money.

When Michele Bachmann's lease is up in four years-after all, she says she's just renting the office - the voters of Senate District 52 should evict this deadbeat tenant and elect someone who at least pays the rent. - Karl Bremer, Letter to the Editor, Stillwater Gazette, March 3, 2003

Joe Mayo at First Ring blog:

For reasons I cannot explain, Bachmann keeps bringing in the cash, which is not the most essential part of the endorsement process (remember that Brian Sullivan outspent Tim Pawlenty

News on Bachmann (google)

Web on Bachmann (google)

Technorati on Bachmann

Michele Bachmann heads an all-star cast of Theocratic flat-earthers in the Sixth District (City Pages)

by Michele Bachmann: Same Sex Marriage Threatens Liberty (Worldnet Daily)

Bachmann Promotes the 2005 Anti-Gay Rally (Unityworks Media) *new*

Bachmann Promotes the 2004 Anti-Marriage Rally (Unityworks Media)

Bachmann uses Senate Chamber to Endorse Unity Works Media
Screen Shot of Unity Works Home Page with Bachmann videos featured

Photos of 2004 Bachmann Amendment Rally at the MN State Capitol

Dump Michele Bachmann Meetup

BLOGS

Gay News and Opinion Blog
GayPatriot
Citizen Wig
Confederacy of Dunces
Razormouth
Michael Brodkorb
Tim Turner's Blog
Ken Avidor's PRT Skeptic Blog
The Pryhills
Gay Orbit
Dump Cheri Pierson Yecke
Yowling from the Fencepost
google weblog
Another Gay Republican
Rebecca's Pocket
Mediasoul (Stacy Harp)
Dump Yecke
Dump Michele Bachmann
STRIDE Site

in 2002). While this will undoubtedly bolster her candidacy, one wonders when she will slip up again. Trust me Bachmann-philes, we are only moments away from another Bathroom-gate and hiding behind the bushes incident.

POSTED BY LLOYDLETTA AT 1:30 PM

COMMENT (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

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PREVIOUS POSTS

Draft Pawlenty site mentions
Scrapbookgate
Senator Eye Candy?
Bachmann's Trash Litters DC
Bachmann Gets Money from Hate
Group
Bachmann Inspires a Poem
City Pages Mines the Bachmann
Quotes
Michele Bachmann Morality Minute
Bachmann in Her Own Words

Blog Bachmannalia Roundup
City Pages on Bachmann Santorum

DUMPBACHMANN NAVEL
GAZING

I'm a
Slithering Reptile
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NEWS

Volume 21 - Issue 1030 - Off Beat - August 30, 2000

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Eternal Optimist

There's a heartwarming yarn **Rep. Steve Sviggum** (R-Kenyon), Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, uses to warm up a crowd. It seems a woman at his church, Vang Lutheran, asked to be buried with a fork in her right hand. The church has a lot of potluck dinners and folks are usually advised to "keep your fork," because the promise of dessert awaits, he tells people--**"True story."** By his own admission, Sviggum uses the tale frequently in his speeches, suggesting that the best is yet to come. Apparently, so do a lot of other people. **Karl Bremer**, a writer for the House DFL media office, has heard the story and earlier this month was surprised to find the tearjerker recounted in **Ann Landers's** advice column. (Off Beat found the parable all over the Internet, too.) Sviggum says he heard the "story of hope" at a political convention, and admits no such incident ever happened at his church. "I've told it many, many times," he says. As to why he claims it happened at his church, Sviggum calls that **the art of storytelling**: "You personalize it somewhat to make it a story that people identify with. But I'm always very careful to say it's **only a story**." Sviggum, now in his 11th term in the House, faces no significant opposition this election year: there's no DFL candidate running in his district this year. True story.

At Off Beat our motto is "Staying informed so you don't have to." Call (612) 372-3788 or send an e-mail to offbeat@citypages.com with any poop that's fit to print.

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- [Off Beat](#) (Aug 23, 2000)
- [Off Beat](#) (Aug 16, 2000)
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- [Off Beat](#) A Good Bet, and If the Shubert Doesn't Fit... (Aug 2, 2000)
- [Off Beat](#) (Jul 26, 2000)
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- [Off Beat](#) (Jul 12, 2000)
- [Off Beat](#) (Jul 5, 2000)

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Also in this Issue

- [Invisible Man](#) Jerry Janezich is staking his U.S. Senate campaign on a populist message and the DFL

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Date: 08/18/2005
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Desc: Rent
Aggregate: 200.00
Line: 17 Transaction id: 5318

Name: Clinic Property, LLC
Address: 8669 Eagle Poiny Blvd Lake Elmo MN
Date: 09/13/2005
Amount: 100.00
Desc: Office Rent
Aggregate: 300.00
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Name: Lorch, Nicole
Address: 714 70th St. Cirle Pines MN
Date: 09/06/2005
Amount: 222.00
Desc: Postage
Aggregate: 222.00
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Name: Cruse, Ben
Address: 11357 Swallow Circle Coon Rapids MN
Date: 09/06/2005
Amount: 262.50
Desc: Graphic Design
Aggregate: 262.50
Line: 17 Transaction id: 5280

Name: Eagle Point Communications
Address: Requested Requested MN
Date: 08/05/2005
Amount: 399.00
Desc: Telephone
Aggregate: 399.00
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Name: Shaw Consulting
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Aggregate: 200.00
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89,208.54				4,299.81		9,883.00	
						BALANCE 08-31-05	
						94,791.73	

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CHECK NUMBER	DATE	REF	CHECK NUMBER	DATE	REF	CHECK NUMBER	DATE	REF	CHECK NUMBER	DATE	REF
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5201	600.00	0805	25010873	5207	243.28	0815	26070990	5228	100.00	0824	13127586
5202	41.96	0805	25010872	5208	1,000.00	0811	14156905	5229	500.00	0825	14000541
5203	399.00	0810	23013277	5209	37.00	0816	12108892	5230	971.00	0825	14000540
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July 22, 2005

Dear Friend,

I am writing you today to share an article that was recently written about a good friend of mine, Phil Krinkie.

I have known Phil for almost 9 years, and in that time I have grown to respect him more than almost anyone I can think of. Phil's honesty, dedication to the conservative cause, and work ethic have made him one of the most powerful and respected members of the State Legislature.

I have learned—the hard way—that when the chips are down there are few people in politics you can count on to do the right thing. And even fewer who are willing to stick their necks out to fight the establishment to protect the interests of Minnesota taxpayers.

Phil Krinkie is one of those people. Phil isn't guided by popularity polls, the media, or the changing attitudes of the political elite.

Instead, Phil sticks to the core principles of the conservative movement. Not because doing so is easy, or even because it is hard, but because he knows that it's the right thing to do.

Because of his dedication to principle, Phil is one of the true leaders of the conservative movement in Minnesota.

Please take the time to read the enclosed article written by Craig Westover of the Pioneer Press. I think it will help you see the true measure of this extraordinary legislator:

Warmest regards,



David Strom
President, Taxpayers League of Minnesota

PIONEER PRESS

Krinkie stays true to principle

"Loyalty," wrote 18th-century hobby columnist Thomas Gordon, is a very good word that is often corrupted from its original meaning. Is it "loyalty" to support one's political leader by assisting him in wild acts contrary to principle? Or is it to principle that one must ultimately remain loyal?

Welcome to the world of Rep. Phil Krinkie, R-Lino Lakes.

In a letter to House Speaker Steve Sviggum dated July 7, Krinkie resigned as chairman of the House Working Group on Taxes. In a simplistic world, Krinkie resigned in disagreement with Gov. Tim Pawlenty over a racino and a cigarette tax. Really, is loyalty to a no new taxes pledge more important than supporting the governor of one's party? Again, in a simplistic world, the answer is illusorily easy.

Krinkie, however, is neither simplistic nor a man who suffers from illusion.

"I know my action will be used by some to say that I'm not a team player," Krinkie said. "But you have to keep your promises even at the possible expense of an election or endorsement." (Krinkie is a candidate for the Republican endorsement for Congress from the 6th District.)

Krinkie is not among those for whom it is easier to compromise principle than deal with difficult situations. Whereas principle provides personal integrity, sound bites are a fragile facsimile of character.

"Minnesota doesn't have a revenue problem, it has a spending problem," the governor declared at an April 15 rally at the Capitol, spinning a



**CRAIG
WESTOVER**

repeated administration theme. When precisely the spending problem of which he spoke became a spending imperative and revenue became the problem is unclear, which lies at the heart of Krinkie's

resignation.

In the course of recent events, Krinkie's resignation was a necessary dissolution of his ties to the administration not taken for light and transient causes. In many ways, dutifully supporting policies with which he did not totally agree, Krinkie personified the Jeffersonian principle that people are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to arbitrarily leap to change things.

But when a long train of actions by a leader invariably progresses to an obvious end that is disloyal to all stated principle, action becomes an individual's duty, especially for one with Krinkie's influence among fiscal conservatives and his position in the administration.

And act is what Krinkie did.

As he alludes to in his resignation letter to Sviggum, the administration's sudden need for revenue was not a product of necessity, but required only "to satisfy the spending desires of the legislature." It was a contradiction of the governor's position of no new taxes, a contradiction of the Republican position on spending, and a point of policy on which Krinkie's integrity would not bend.

"It's one thing to change policy when dictated by circumstances," Krinkie said. "but the governor has not explained to the people of Minnesota — he certainly hasn't explained to me — how circumstances have changed."

Here are the facts that Krinkie submits:

From the governor's surprise announcement of his willingness to consider a 75-cent "health impact fee" on cigarettes through the final budget being crafted at this writing, the governor ran parallel negotiations to that of the House and Senate Tax Working Group. By sending contradicting messages, he undercut House negotiators. He caused both Democrats and Republicans in the working group to question whether the committee was relevant or a charade. On several occasions, requesting counsel, Krinkie was told to take no action.

By July 7, it was clear to Krinkie that the administration's objective, regardless of its public statements or messages to the committee, was securing new revenue, not controlling spending. At that point, Krinkie made the sobering decision to resign as chairman of the tax working group.

Although secure that his decision is the right one, across a table over beers, Krinkie is far from smug. He considers Pawlenty "a good friend," but one in whom he is deeply disappointed. It nags him that he might have let down his colleagues. And of course, there is the inevitable passage of a not-very-good bill.

"It's very humbling to be complimented for taking a principled stance," Krinkie said. "But after the vote on Wednesday, who cares? Few will remember. The consolation is that I will remember. I will be accountable. I will have kept my promises."

How much more loyalty can one have?

Westover is an Afton writer who blogs at www.craigwestover.blogspot.com. E-mail him at westover4@yahoo.com